

لَامُ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ

لَامُ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ is a *lâm* with a *fathah* prefixed to the *mubtada'* for the sake of **emphasis**, e.g.

وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ 'And indeed the remembrance of Allah is the greatest' (Qur'an, 29:45)

وَالْأَمَةُ مُؤْمِنَةٌ خَيْرٌ مِنْ مُشْرِكَةٍ وَلَوْ أَعْجَبَتْكُمْ 'And indeed a believing slave girl is better than a *mushrikah* when though she might be pleasing to you' (Qur'an, 2:221).

This *lâm* is not to be confused with the preposition *لِ* which has a *kasrah*, but takes a *fathah* when prefixed to a pronoun, e.g., لَهُ، لَكَ، لَهَا، لَكُمْ.

Please remember that the لَامُ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ does not change the ending of the *mubtada'*.

Some examples from the Qur'an:

16:41 And indeed the reward of the Hereafter is the greatest	وَلَأَجْرُ الْآخِرَةِ أَكْبَرُ
29:45 And indeed the remembrance of Allah is the greatest	وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ
39:26 And indeed the torment of the Hereafter is the greatest	وَلْعَذَابُ الْآخِرَةِ أَكْبَرُ

اللَّامُ الْمُنْزَحَلَةُ (زَحَلَقَ = to slide, glide, slip and to roll)

We have seen *lâm al-ibtidâ'* e.g. لَبَيْتُكَ أَجْمَلُ 'Indeed your house is more beautiful'.

Now we want to use إِنَّ also in this sentence, the *lâm* has to be **pushed to the *khavar***, **as two particles of emphasis cannot come together in one place.**

So the sentence becomes إِنَّ لَبَيْتُكَ أَجْمَلُ 'Indeed your house is more beautiful'.

After its removal from its original position the *lâm* is no longer called *lâm al-ibtidâ'*. It is now called **اللَّامُ الْمُنْزَحَلَةُ** (the displaced *lâm*) or for easy remembrance (the **skating *lâm***!).

A sentence with both إِنَّ and the *lâm* is more emphatic than the one with إِنَّ or the *lâm* only.

Here are some examples from the Qur'an:

29:41 Indeed the frailest of houses is the spider's house	إِنَّ أَوْهَنَ الْبُيُوتِ لَبَيْتُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ
37:4 Indeed your God is One	إِنَّ إِلَهَكُمْ لَوَاحِدٌ
3:96 Indeed the first sanctuary appointed for mankind is the one which is in Bakkah (Makkah).	إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِلنَّاسِ لَلَّذِي بِبَكَّةَ
31:19 Indeed the harshest of all voices is the voice of the ass	إِنَّ أَنْكَرَ الْأَصْوَاتِ لَصَوْتُ الْحَمِيرِ

Some examples of **إِنَّ** and of **الْلَامُ الْمُرَحِّلَةُ** (The skating *lâm*) from the Qur'an

15:77 Most surely there is a sign in this for the believers.	إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ
45:3 Verily in the heavens and the earth, are Signs for those who believe.	إِنَّ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ
82:13&14 Indeed the righteous shall be in bliss and indeed the corrupt shall be in hell	إِنَّ الْأَبْرَارَ لَفِي نَعِيمٍ وَإِنَّ الْفُجَّارَ لَفِي جَحِيمٍ
63:1 The hypocrites are surely liars.	إِنَّ الْمُنَافِقِينَ لَكَاذِبُونَ
103:1&2 By the declining day, Verily Man is in loss.	وَالْعَصْرِ إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ
14:39 Most surely my Lord is the Hearer of prayer:	إِنَّ رَبِّي لَسَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ
3:13 Most surely there is a lesson in this	إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَعِبْرَةً
11:79 And most surely you know what we desire.	وَإِنَّكَ لَتَعْلَمُ مَا تُرِيدُ
34:24 Lo! We or you assuredly are rightly guided or in error manifest.	إِنَّا أَوْ إِيَّاكُمْ لَعَلَىٰ هُدًى أَوْ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ
3:62 Lo! This verily is the true narrative.	إِنَّ هَذَا لَهُوَ الْقَصَصُ الْحَقُّ
100:6,7&8 Most surely man is ungrateful to his Lord. And most surely he is a witness of that. And most surely he is tenacious in the love of wealth.	إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِرَبِّهِ لَكَنُودٌ وَإِنَّهُ عَلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ لَشَهِيدٌ وَإِنَّهُ لِحُبِّ الْخَيْرِ لَشَدِيدٌ
15:9 Surely We have revealed the Reminder and We will most surely be its guardian.	إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ
100:11 Most surely their Lord that day shall be fully aware of them.	إِنَّ رَبَّهُم بِهِمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ لَّخَبِيرٌ
8:42 Most surely Allah is Hearing, Knowing;	إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَسَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ